Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEL AV 03309 121708Z ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSM-03 IO-13 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 COME-00 EB-08 DOE-11 INT-05 OMB-01 OES-07 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 /123 W

-----085071 121711Z/53

O 121645Z MAR 78 ZFF4
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1847
AMEMBASSY CAIRO NIACT IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL TEL AVIV 3309

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: ENRG, PBOR, IS, EG, US

TAGS: ENRG, PBOR, IS, EG, US SUBJECT: AMOCO INCIDENT

REF: CAIRO 07990

- 1. WE NOTE THAT BY COMMENCING DRILLING (REFTEL) AMOCO HAS IN FACT "CREATED FACTS ON THE GROUND," WHICH IS EXACTLY WHAT DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER YADIN ARGUED AGAINST. WE WERE INFORMALLY ADVISED THAT THE ISRAELIS WERE NOT GOING TO PURSUE THE MATTER ON MARCH 11 DUE TO THE SABBATH. THEN THE TERRORIST ATTACK OCCURRED. DESPITE ISRAELI PREOCCUPATION WITH THE TERRORIST INCIDENT, ARMA WAS TODAY QUEIRED BY BOTH DIRECTOR MILITARY INTELLIGENCE GENERAL GAZIT AND EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE CONCERNING THE "STATUS OF THE BOUYS". IN BOTH CASES ARMA RESPONDED THAT THIS WAS A POLITICAL QUESTION WHICH HE HAD NO AUTHORITY TO DISCUSS.
- 2. WE BELIEVE THAT THE ONLY REASON WE HAVE NOT OFFICIALLY HEARD FROM THE GOI TODAY CONCERNING THE CONFIDENTIAL

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SITUATION IN THE GULF IS THE TERRORIST ATTACK. ALTHOUGH AMOCO BELIEVES THAT THE INCIDENT MAY BE OVER (PARA 3 REFTEL), WE DOUBT THAT SUCH IS THE CASE AND ANTICIPATE SOME KIND OF GOI REACTION WITHIN A DAY OR TWO.

3. THERE IS ALWAYS THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE ISRAELIS DID INDEED MAKE A NAVIGATIONAL MISTAKE AND HAVE NOW

DECIDED TO BACK OFF FROM THEIR PROTEST; HOWEVER, WE HAVE NO INDICATION THIS IS SO.

4. GIVEN CHANGED SITUATION IN THE GULF SINCE STATE 063387 WAS SENT, WE WOULD APPRECIATE NEW INSTRUCTIONS.
VIETS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: OFFSHORE DRILLING, TERRITORIAL WATERS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS

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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

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Disposition Reason:
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Subject: AMOCO INCIDENT TAGS: ENRG, PBOR, IS, EG, US, AMOCO To: STATE CAIRO

Type: TE

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Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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